

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE GUIDE
FOR YOUR
CLASS II AND CLASS III DIKE**

OPERATOR: _____ DATE: _____

TAX MAP KEY OF PRACTICE LOCATION: _____

NRCS OFFICE: _____ PHONE: _____

A properly operated and maintained dike is an asset to your farm. This dike was designed and installed to prevent flooding or to control the water level. The estimated life span of this installation is at least 10 years. The life of this installation can be assured and usually increased by developing and carrying out a good operation and maintenance program.

Here are recommendations to help you develop a good operation and maintenance program.

OPERATION RECOMMENDATIONS

- Notify NRCS of holes, settlement or cracks in the earthen sections.
- Avoid excessive travel on any portion of the system that will harm or destroy the vegetative cover.
- Keep machinery away from steep sloped ridges. Keep equipment operators informed of all potential hazards

MAINTENANCE RECOMMENDATIONS

- Immediately inspect the dike after each significant storm.
- Remove all foreign debris that hinders system operation.
- Immediately repair vandalism, vehicular, or livestock damage to earth fills and outlets.
- Replace weathered or displaced rock riprap to constructed grade.
- Periodically check the elevation of the earthfills and restore to grade.
- All settlement or cracks in the soil should be investigated to determine the cause and immediately repaired.
- Maintain vigorous growth of desirable vegetative cover. This includes reseeding, fertilization and controlled application of herbicides when necessary. Periodic mowing is needed to control height.

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
OFFICE FOR ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE YOU MIGHT NEED FOR
IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN.